(b) With effect from 1st April 1962 the special minimum guarantee has been reduced to Rs. 35 per h.p. per annum in all the areas in the State including Karur taluk.

Teacher-Pensioners' Association, Madras

* 70 *Q.*—SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHY : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any representation has been received recently from the Teacher-Pensioners' Association, Madras, on the matter of temporary increase in pensions to teachers; and

(*b*) if so, the action taken or proposed to be taken thereon?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) The request was examined by Government and the Association was informed of the Government's inability to accept it.

SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHY : Are the Government aware that the majority of teachers who have retired from elementary schools are getting Rs. 10 and below as pension whereas any adult in Tamil Nad gets Rs. 20 under the Old Age Pension Scheme?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : It is not merely teachers who have retired, but other Government servants have retired. They also get a paltry pension. If it is a question of getting old age pension, that depends on satisfying the rules prescribed for it, and if any teacher satisfies the rules prescribed, he would also be entitled to get Rs. 20 besides the pension that he receives.

SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHY : Are the Government aware that this temporary increase has been denied only to teachers whereas it has been paid to Government servants all along all these years?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : I do not think that is the correct position. Government do feel that it would be a commitment that they will not be able to fulfil and that they cannot agree to grant it.

SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHY : Will the Government give an assurance that if it is the case that the teachers alone have been denied this, they will consider the proposal?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : There is no question of giving any assurance on this matter.

Jalakanteeswarar Temple at Vellore

* 71 *Q.*— DR. A. SREENIVASAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there is any proposal to take up with the Archaeological Department of the Government of India, the revival of worship in the Jalakanteeswarar Temple at Vellore; and

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(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

Secondary Education Act

72 Q.—SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHY : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) whether there is any proposal to bring in a Secondary Education Act in the State; and

(b) if so, the stage at which the matter now stands?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHY : Will the Government remember that there was a proposal to bring in this Act and may I know why it has been given up?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : Some time back there was a proposal, but that has been given up.

SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHY : May I know the reasons why the Government have dropped it?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : Government are not satisfied that that would be the best arrangement.

SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHY : Will the Government give statutory safeguard to the teacher as Government had promised on the floor of this House that such a provision would be included in this Act?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : Government have reconsidered the whole position and they are of the view that no statutory provision should be made regarding secondary education.

Consumers' Co-operative Stores for Government Servants

* 73 Q.—VIDWAN T. MUTHUKANNAPPAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Co-operation be pleased to state—

(a) whether there is any proposal to start Consumers' Co-operative Stores for Government Servants; and

(b) if so, the stage at which the matter now stands?

THE HON. SRI N. S. S. MANRADIAR : (a) & (b) There are already thirty-four (34) Consumers' Co-operative Stores in this State formed exclusively for the benefit of Government employees.

(அ) & (இ) சர்க்கார் ஊழியர்களுக்காக மட்டும் இந்த ராஜ்யத்தில் ஏற்கனவே முப்பத்தி நான்கு (34) கூட்டுறவு பண்டகசாலைகள் இருக்கின்றன.